(b) if so, what is Government's reaction thereto?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) During the current year Government have so far released a quantity of 2.67 lakh bales of long and extra long staple cotton in favour of various agencies, including 55,000 bales to Maharashtra State Co-op. Cotton Growers' Marketing Federation. In addition 0.50 lakh bales of Bengal Deshi has been released for export. Out of this quantity 2.11 lakh bales of long and extra long staple cotton and 36,382 bales of Bengal Deshi were registered for export upto 10th February, 1987.

Closed textile mills in Rajasthan

160. SHRI BHUVNESH CHATURVEDI: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) what is the number of textile mills lying closed in Rajasthan and since when they are lying closed; and

(b) what steps Government have taken or intended to take to restart the closed textile mills?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR): (a) A statement is enclosed. (*See below*).

(b) Government have set up a Nodal Agency to examine sick closed textile mills in order to determine whether they are potentially viable or not. The Nodal Agency evolves and manages rehabilitation packages in respect of those mills which are found by it to be potentially viable. Mills which are found to be non-viable may have to close down permanently. Workers of those mills which closed down permanently on or after 6-6-85 will be entitled to financial assistance under the Textile Workers' Rehabilitation Fund Scheme.

Statement

Cotton textile mills in Rajasthan lying closed as on 31st December, 1986

S. No.	Name of the Mill	Date of closure
1.	Jaipur Spinning and Weaving Mill, Jaipur	16-4-82
2.	Sudarshan Textiles, Kota	6-3-85
3.	Siddha Syntex Ltd., Udaipur	3-3-86
4.	Podar Spinning Mills, Jaipur	2-8-85
5.	Krishna Mills Ltd., Beawar	14-8-83

Posts of Ambassadors/High Commissioners lying vacant

161. SHRI BHUVNESH CHATURVEDI: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the countries where posts of Ambassadors or High Commissioners are lying vacant;

(b) the policy of Government for appointing persons on these diplomatic posts; and

(c) the total number of non-officials, officials and retired officials, of each category at present on such posts?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI K. NATWAR SINGH): (a) The